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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/045,515	10/26/2001	Tsutomu Tanaka	A5015/T40100	2999
32588	7590	03/01/2004	EXAMINER	
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC. 2881 SCOTT BLVD. M/S 2061 SANTA CLARA, CA 95050			JONES, STEPHEN E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	
DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20040223

DATE MAILED:

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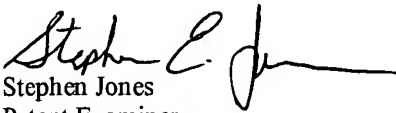
Commissioner for Patents

The reply filed on 1/7/04 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because: Applicant's arguments regarding the elected invention are not persuasive. As noted in the transmittal dated 11/6/03 the remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention. It is the Figs. 5 and 7A-B that are the elected species which simply do not show a "bent" portion. Furthermore, the first examination and search of the claims did not consider the limitation of the lines being "bent" since the limitation was not included in the claims which were examined (i.e. the new limitation of the lines being "bent" is of a non-elected embodiment which was not examined in the first office action and thus election by original presentation is in effect for the present claims).

Furthermore, claims 5-8 and 12-13 were cancelled by applicant in the communication dated 2/12/03. These claim numbers cannot be re-used and should not be included in future claim amendments/submittals (i.e. the cancelled claims should be described as cancelled, e.g.: 5. (Cancelled)).

Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.


Stephen Jones
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2817